

A
 COMPANION
 FOR THE
 PENITENT,
 And for Persons
 Troubled in Mind.

CONSISTING OF

An Office for the Penitent, to carry on their
 Reconciliation with GOD.

And a Trial or Judgment of the Soul, for
 discovering the Safety of their Spiritual
 Estate.

And an Office for Persons troubled in Mind,
 to settle them in Peace and Comfort.

By JOHN KETTLEWELL, B. D.
 Late Vicar of Coles-hill, in Warwickshire.

A NEW EDITION.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR F. AND C. RIVINGTON, BOOKSELLERS
 TO THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN
 KNOWLEDGE; NO. 62, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.

1794.

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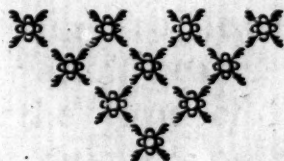
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PRINTED FOR T. AND C. RIVINGTON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE,
TO THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE,
NO. 1, ST. PATRICK'S COURTHOUSE, LONDON.



THE INTRODUCTION.

Directions and helps for repentance, can never come out of season: For repentance is “the one thing necessary.” *Luke x. 42.* and the chief business of all men in this world, and will be so whilst they live in it. The best do daily need it, to make up their daily failures, their defects, and forgetfulness. And the bad have no time to delay it for one moment, having deferred a great deal too long already to shake off their sinful habits, and to set themselves with all their might to please God, and to secure their everlasting peace.

Especially the time of *Lent* is a season wherein great numbers profess to make this their business: For from the early usage and practice of the church, this has still been made a solemn time for sinners to call their sins to remembrance, and to seek God’s mercy and forgiveness of the same, by earnest prayers, and amendment of Life, and by afflicting of themselves, and bringing forth fruits worthy of repentance.

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And to help them in so necessary and beneficial a work, I have composed and published the following Offices, hoping that they may prove acceptable to my heavenly Master, and serviceable to direct and complete the repentance, and to settle the comfort and peace of some of his beloved servants, into whose hands his providence shall bring them.

IN the OFFICE *for the Penitent*, I have endeavoured to mark out distinctly the several steps, and full compass of a sinner's restauration, or reconciliation with God. Wherein I have all along interwoven instructions with their devotions, and set their work before them, that they may see what they have to amend, and what they are to do, to work out their pardon, as well as how they are to petition for it.

I have sought to make the soul acquainted with its disease, without which it would neither know what it has for God to forgive, or for his grace and its own care to remedy. And I have been very particular in some forms of confession, to affect it with a more distinct and effectual sense of the several maladies which it lies sick of, and which, as it must beg mercy for, so in the course of its daily cure, it must both diligently and designedly set itself, by God's help, to cure.

Where sin is the disease, the great gospel way of cure is true repentance. And this I endeavour

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endeavour to set out, in all the necessary parts, and great and worthy fruits thereof. I lead the penitent to express the same in such acts, as through the merits of Christ, are the truest atonement for sins, and have the most express promises of mercy and forgiveness made to them. And then I instruct him to comfort up himself, with an humble claim and application of those expressions of the divine mercy and condescension, which are given to us for our confidence and consolation in performance of those acts. And if he takes care to say all that I have here put into his mouth, with sincerity, and is really affected as these forms express, he is a true penitent, and may be a comfortable one; he has thereby secured his everlasting peace, and may quiet and revive his spirit with the joyful sense thereof.

IN the *trial or judgment of the Soul* for discovering the safety of their spiritual estate, I have given them as clear, and full, and withal, as brief a view as I can, of the final account which will be exacted of them. I have run through the several heads of trial and examination, and raised such questions upon them, as I take to be most pertinent and decisive of their future condition, and fittest to settle their present peace, and then give them the benefit thereof, by setting their answers and God's promises together, and applying all to themselves. My desire

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is, so far as my skill would reach, to omit no question which is necessary to their safety: And my care has been, as I am able, so to word all, as that they may serve to clear their doubts and uncertainties, upon the several parts of their account, but beget none in them.

And this part will be of chief account and use to both the other offices. For it is the truest trial of penitents, and the truest direction for them in carrying on and completing their repentance. And it is the surest ground of peace of conscience. For, containing the full draught of settling our peace with God, it must give the best light and direction for peace in ourselves, which lies in seeing that God is at peace with us.

Though the business of these papers is not to prove and argue, but briefly to direct, yet to the several heads, which I have made the *articles of the penitent's trial*, I have prefixed *texts of scripture*, to shew that God has made them the *terms of his mercy*. But it is not unlikely, that some who will not be persuaded to be so good as they should, will think that I am stricter about this account than I need. And if they do, I cannot help it, but they may. My part is to deal faithfully, both by my blessed Lord, and by them, and to represent things to them, as he has left them, and as in the end they will find them. So that if my discourse has more strictness than they could wish to hear from

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from it, it is because I look not how to suit their carnal wishes, but how to serve their everlasting happiness. And because I would rather have them offended with me for telling them unpleasant truths, whilst they may serve themselves by them; than flatter them with pleasing errors, till it is too late for them to rectify the same, and prevent their own everlasting ruin and destruction thereby.

IN the OFFICE *for persons troubled in Mind*, I am careful to have them fully sensible of that holy obedience which is needful to keep them safe, as well as to free them from those unnecessary mistrusts and fears which render them uneasy. I seek to give them a just sense of the things which trouble them, and to keep them from overvaluing them. And to make them acquainted with the true allowances of favour, which God is ready to make to their infirmities, and with the several grounds which they have to hope and look for them; and lead them on in their devotions, both humbly to plead with God, and to comfort up their own hearts with the same.

TO the OFFICES I have prefixed *collections of pertinent and proper Scriptures*. And these will serve the devout minds to express their devotion in, or to support their spirits withal; yea, and to guide and direct their practice too.

For they mark out their duty upon the several points which they refer to, and teach them, not only how they may address to God, but how they ought to employ themselves, and what the work and business is, which God's favour and their own eternal welfare, or which his peace and their own, require at their hands.



AN
O F F I C E
FOR THE
PENITENT.



S C R I P T U R E S.

Pfalm xxxii. Ezek. xviii. Luke xv.
Pfalm xxxviii. Psalm li.

I. *For Godly Sorrow for Sins.*

TO him will I look that is poor, and of a
contrite spirit, and trembleth at my
word. *Isa. lxvi. 2.*

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
A broken and a contrite heart; O God, thou
wilt not despise. *Pfalm li. 17.*

Turn ye, therefore, to me with all your
heart, and with fasting, and with weeping,
and with mourning.

And rent your hearts, and not your gar-
ments, and turn unto the Lord your God.
Joel. ii. 12. 13.

Remember

Remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein ye have been defiled, and lothe yourselves in your own sight, for all your evils that ye have committed. *Ezek. xx. 43.*

Lord! mine iniquities are gone over mine head, as an heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.

I am ready to halt, and my sorrow is continually before me.

I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin. *Psalms xxxviii. 4, 17, 18.*

II. *For Penitential Confession of the same.*

IF our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. *1 John iii. 20.*

Our iniquities are all before him, yea, our secret sins are set in the light of his countenance. *Psalms xc. 8.*

And therefore, He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them, shall have mercy. *Prov. xxviii. 13.*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins; and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John i. 19.*

I will arise, therefore, and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. *Luke xv. 18, 19.*

Behold,

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. *Psalms li. 5.*

And since I was born, I have gone astray like a lost sheep. *Psalms cxix. 176.*

Mine iniquities are increased over my head, and my trespasses are grown unto the heavens. *Ezra ix. 6.*

But, Lord, I acknowledge my sins, unto thee, and mine iniquities have I not hid. *Psalms xxxii. 5.*

I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sins are ever before me.

Against thee have I sinned, and done these evils in thy sight; that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and clear when thou judgest. *Psalms li. 3, 4.*

God be merciful to me a sinner. *Luke xviii. 3.*

To me, the chief among sinners. *1 Tim. i. 15.*

To me, that have been at agreement with hell, and made a covenant with death. *Isa. xxviii. 15.*

And whose destruction is of myself. *Hos. xiii. 9.*

III. For Resolution of Amendment.

I.

IF I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me. *Psalms lxvi. 18.*

Go therefore, and sin no more. *John viii. 11.* Sin

Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. *John v. 14.*

And remember from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works, or else I will come unto thee quickly. *Rev. ii. 5.*

Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions, so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart, and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? *Ezek. xviii. 30, 31.*

Wash you, make you clean, put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes: cease to do evil, learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, and plead for the widow.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. *Isa. i. 15, 16, 17, 18.*

II.

CReate in me a new heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. *Psalms li. 10.*

I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.

I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments. *Psalms cxix. 59, 60.*

Lord,

Lord, incline not my heart to any evil thing. *Psal.* cxli. 4.

Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity. *Psal.* cxix. 37.

I have made a covenant with mine eyes. *Job* xxxi. 1.

Set a watch before my mouth, and keep the door of my lips. *Psal.* cxli. 3.

Remove my foot from evil. *Prov.* iv. 27.

Hedge up my way with thorns, and make a wall, that I may not find my former paths to evil. *Hos.* ii. 6.

Keep back thy servant from presumptuous sins, let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and innocent from the great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psal.* xix. 13, 14.

IV. For Fruits worthy of Repentance.

BRing forth fruits meet for repentance. *Matt.* iii. 8.

This self-same thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort:—Behold! what carefulness it wrought in you; yea, what clearing of yourselves; yea, what indignation; yea, what fear; yea, what vehement desire; yea, what zeal; yea, what revenge, or punishing of yourselves. *2 Cor.* vii. 11.

If

If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he hath robbed, and walk in the statutes of life without committing iniquity: none of his sins shall be mentioned to him, he shall surely live, he shall not die. *Lev. vi. 2, 3, 4, 5. Ezek. xxxiii. 15, 16.*

If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;

Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. *Matt. v. 23, 24.*

Forgive, and you shall be forgiven. *Luke vi. 37.*

If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses. *Matt. xi. 14, 15.*

Break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor. *Dan. iv. 27.*

Thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. *Acts x. 4.*

They lay up in store for us a good foundation against the time to come, that we may lay hold on eternal life. *1 Tim. vi. 18, 19.*

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. *Matt. v. 7.*

He shall have judgment without mercy, who hath shewed no mercy; but mercy rejoiceth against judgment. *James ii. 13.*

V. For Pardon of Sins, and ground for the
Hopes thereof.

ENTER not into judgment with thy servant,
for in thy sight shall no man living be
justified. *Psalms cxliii. 2.*

If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities;
O Lord, who shall stand?

But there is forgiveness with thee that thou
mayest be feared.

With the Lord is mercy, and plenteous
redemption. *Psalms cxxx. 3, 4, 7.*

He knoweth our frame, he remembereth
that we are but dust; and pitieth those that
fear him, as a father pitieth his own children.

Psalms ciii. 13, 14.

Likewise, the blood of Jesus Christ his
Son cleanseth us from all sins. *1 John i. 7.*

The chastisement of our peace was upon
him, and through his stripes we are healed.
Isa. v. 3, 5.

And if any man sin, we have an advocate
with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous,
and he is the propitiation for our sins.
1 John ii. 1, 2.

For him hath God exalted, to give re-
pentance, and forgiveness of sins. *Acts*
v. 31.

And that repentance, and remission of
sins should be preached in his name among
all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. *Luke*
xxiv. 47.

This

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. i. 15.*

He came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. *Matt. ix. 13.*

And there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. *Luke xv. 7.*

Create in me a clean heart, *therefore*, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

And hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. *Psalms li. 9, 10.*

VI. *For Comfort in the same.*

PURge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me to hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto thee. *Psalms li. 7, 8, 12, 13.*

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted. *Matt. v. 4.*

He will speak peace to his people, and to his saints; but let them not turn again to folly. *Psalms lxxxv. 8.*

I said

I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found. *Psalms* xxxii. 5, 6. *Psalms* cii. 17, 18.

Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.

The Lord hath heard my supplications; the Lord will receive my prayer. *Psalms* vi. 8, 9.

P R A Y E R S.

I. Prayers upon the several Parts of Repentance, in particular and distinct Forms.

1. *A Confession of Sins.*

I.

O Almighty and most gracious Lord, look in mercy upon me the meanest of thy servants, who am less than the least of all thy mercies, and have deserved the heaviest of thy judgments, and am not worthy to lift up mine eyes to the place where thine honour dwelleth.

I am a sinner, O Lord, yea, a sinner altogether, [*and one of the chief among sinners.*] I was born in sin, and ever since have

have led a life suitable to that beginning. For, to the shame of my face, and to the praise of thy long-suffering, O Almighty God, I do here, with a truly humble and contrite heart, confess to thee, That I have shamefully neglected and let alone those good things which I ought to have done; and have done those evil things which I ought to have forborn. Of both these I am heinously guilty, both in thought, word, and deed. And have wickedly incurred the same, against the innumerable endearments of thy mercies, and terrors of thy judgment; against all the good motions of thy grace, and against the many seasonable admonitions which I have had from spiritual advisers, and against the voice and strugglings of my own conscience. I have done these things, O Lord, and have continued to do them, repeating the same many times; yea, alas! too many of them in ordinary course; yea, and that after my own manifold and solemn promises and engagements, that I would offend therein no more.

Lord, be merciful to me a miserable sinner.

II.

AND in all these transgressions, O righteous Father! I have acted as a most impudent sinner, flying in the face of an infinite Majesty; and passing all these heinous affronts, where I owe the utmost love and reverence. And, as a most presumptuously

ously venturous and daring sinner, provoking that power which cannot torment, and utterly destroy me at its pleasure.

Lord, be merciful unto me, a bold and presumptuous sinner.

III.

I Have therein dealt most disingenuously and ungratefully, O merciful Lord! rising up against thee, the Author of all my blessings; and flying in the face of that mercy which fosters and sustains me, even whilst I am thus basely affronting and despising it; and which is heaping new obligations upon me every moment. Under all these grievous offences, I have first begged thy patience, and then fallen to abuse it. I have first prayed to be spared, and then turned basely to provoke thee, after thou hast spared me; and have abused all thy mercies, to an opportunity of committing more offences, and of returning hatred, where I have received the greatest and most endearing love.

Lord, be merciful unto me, a base and ungrateful sinner.

IV.

YEA, O holy Father! I have therein dealt falsely and deceitfully with thee, promising obedience, whilst I am in need of thy mercies, but practising none after once I have received them. In the midst of all my pretences to honour and honesty, and
regard

regard to my word amongst men; I have been wretchedly careless, of dealing honourably or justly with thy divine Majesty, and of keeping my word with thee; though thou art always faithful, and canst not fail in the least tittle of thy word with me.

Lord, be merciful to me, a false and faithless sinner.

V.

AND in all this, O my dear God, I have done most foolishly; all this while madly hindering and resisting my own everlasting mercies, peace, and safety; and instead thereof, making a covenant with hell, and securing and hastening on mine own eternal misery, and heaping up sorrows, which never can be born, and which admit of no remedy.

Lord, be merciful unto me, a blind and desperately foolish sinner.

VI.

SO that in myself, O most righteous Lord! I am nothing but sin and misery. My past life can shew nothing for which thou shouldest accept me. Nor can I reasonably expect that thou shouldest give heed to my word, or trust me when I promise to do better, having so frequently and shamefully broke my word with thee already.

But, O Almighty and most gracious Father! Thou hast mercy enough to pardon
all

all my wickedness, and grace enough to establish all my promises, and to keep me true to them; and to thee alone do I fly for both. I do not justify, nor excuse my wickedness, but utterly condemn it, and condemn myself for the same. It is forgiveness, O Father! that I seek; and it is merely from thine abundant mercies, and for my dear Saviour's infinite merits, that I hope for it. O thou who forgivest sinners, forgive me a great sinner. [*The greatest of sinners.*] O thou great physician of souls, who curest sinners, cure me, who seek to thee alone for remedy against all my sins. Rescue me from the power and bondage of my own corrupt lusts, by the greater power of thy grace; and deliver me, good Lord, from doing ill, and from all tormenting fears of suffering thine eternal wrath and vengeance for the same, through the merits and mediation of thine only Son, and mine only Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Other forms of confession are added afterwards; whereof the Penitent may serve himself, and wherewith he may suit his spirit, as he sees cause.

2. *A Profession of godly sorrow for sins, and of resolutions of new obedience.*

I.

“ I Call my ways to remembrance, O Lord, “ wherein I have defiled myself.” *Ezek.* xx. 43. and remember them with a troubled heart. “ My evil doings are daily before “ mine eyes.” *Psalms* li. 3. and have made me vile and loathsome in my own sight, as they have done in thine. They are a burden upon my spirit, a “ sore burden, and too “ heavy for me to bear.” *Pf.* xxxviii. 4.

But now, O my God, with a penitent heart I turn from them, and resolve by thy grace to cast away all my transgressions, which are most highly displeasing both to thee and to myself. From this day forward I am fully purposed to forsake them. O thou my God, “ let them not be my ruin.” *Ezek.* xviii. 13.

God be merciful to me, a returning sinner.

II.

AND from them, O holy Father, which are the shame and sorrow of my life, I turn to thee, who art the glory and comfort, and shalt ever be the guide and governor thereof. I turn to thee with a “ broken and “ contrite heart.” *Psalms* li. 17. O receive and comfort it, and despise it not. I return to thee with my whole heart, and make no

reserves, nor will retain any allowance of any of my former Sins, no not of those which seemed most delightful or serviceable unto me, and are hardest to part with.

“ I remember, O Lord, from whence I am fallen, and resolve, by thy help, to do my first vows.” *Rev. ii. 5.* “ I will make haste to do them, and not delay to keep thy commandments.” *Psalms cxix. 60.* I beg no greater mercy than to be found stedfast in thy ways, nor shall account any thing to be so great favours to me, as those which serve to keep me in the same. I will most heartily thank thee, O thou faithful guide and keeper of returning souls, if thou wilt be pleased to “ hedge up my way with thorns,” or with any worldly difficulties, that may keep me from “ finding my way to my former vanities.” *Hos. ii. 6.* For it is the unfeigned desire of my heart, and shall be the great endeavour of my life, above all things to keep true to thee; and my chiefest prayer to thee is, to keep me from falling any more from the way of thy fear, or from forfeiting thy mercy.

God be merciful to me, a returning sinner.

III.

AND having now, by thy grace, these holy thoughts and purposes in my heart, I earnestly beg of thee, O blessed author and finisher of all grace, that I may

B

never

never lose them. I give my heart to thee, and humbly pray, that it may be always in thy hands, since it is so unconstant in what is good, and prone to turn aside to what is evil, when it is in mine own keeping. O Father, keep it stedfast and unalterable in thy ways. "Let it not be inclined to any evil thing," nor lean towards any of my former vanities. *Psalms* xli. 4. "Keep mine eyes from beholding wickedness," and mine ears from listening thereto. *Psalms* cxix. 37. Let not "my lips utter any thing that is ill," nor my feet move a "step in any of the paths of death." *Psalms* cxli. 3. *Prov.* iv. 27. But hold my whole spirit, soul, and body, in the ways of thy fear; and continue me under the comfortable hopes of thy favour; through Jesus Christ, my blessed Lord, and only Saviour. *Amen.*

3. *A Profession of the Fruits of Repentance, and the Conditions of Forgiveness.*

I.

I Have sinned grievously, O Lord, but I am angry at myself for my Sins, and desire to prevent thy justice, and to take revenge upon my own head for my transgressions. And however disposed and easy I was to be drawn aside before, yet now thou hast filled my heart with such a godly sorrow and compunction for my sins, as begets

begets in me a vehement desire, and godly care, to sin no more.

By the help of thy grace, O merciful God, I am ready now to walk in those statutes which I have formerly transgressed; *Ezek. xxxiii. 15.* and to give again whatsoever I have at any time unjustly taken away; and to make full amends to the utmost of my Power, for all the wrong and damage which I have ever done to any*. And

where, either by my example, or by my counsel and persua-

* Particularly, &c. here name particulars.

sion, or by my importunities, I have tempted others, and drawn them into sin, it shall be the study and care of my life, to make them sensible of the heinousness and extreme danger thereof, as, through the blessing of thy grace, I am to recover them out of the same†.

God be merciful to me, a returning sinner.

† Here name particulars, [particularly, &c.

II.

I Am contented, O holy Father, to submit myself to those who have just cause to be offended with me, and to use all fair ways of reconciling myself to them, before I hope for reconciliation and peace with

* Particular-
ly, &c.

thee*. I freely forgive all those
that have trespassed against me,
and with good will offer them
my pardon, as I most heartily desire

† Particular-
ly, &c.

thine†. And my hearty desire
and purpose is, to study doing
good to my brethren in their
needs, that I may not be held unworthy to
receive it from thee in mine own; and to
shew mercy to others, that I may not be
ashamed to ask it for myself; and that the
rigorousness and unrelenting hardness of my
own dealings towards them, may not deprive
me of the favourable indulgence, and merci-
fulness of thy dealings towards me.

*God be merciful to me, and forgive me, a
merciful and forgiving Sinner.*

III.

I Have no hope in myself, O gracious
Lord, but only in thy mercy. Nor any
expectation of the same, through my de-
servings, but merely through thy blessed
Son's infinite merits. Nor rest my soul upon
any "other name given among men," *Acts iv.*
12. whereby thy justice may be satisfied, and
my sins expiated, but on his alone.

*God be merciful to me, a great, but an hum-
ble and believing Sinner.*

IV.

IV.

4. *A Prayer for Pardon of Sins.*

O Holy and most merciful Father, spare me, thy poor sinful, but repenting creature. Spare me, good Lord, spare me, and let me not perish in my sins, now I am heartily troubled and sorry for them; but

through thine infinite mercies, find pardon of the same.

I am a sinful person, O Lord: But thou, blessed Jesus, art "the Saviour of sinners." *1 Tim. i. 15.* And thy coming into the world was "to call sinners to repentance." *Matt. ix. 13.* Lord, I come and repent at thy call; cast not me and my repentance away from thy presence.

I have gone astray, and am very defective in my return home, through the frailty of my flesh. But thou, gracious Lord, considerest our frailties. Thou "knowest our frame, and considerest whereof we are made." *Psalms ciii. 13.* O be not "extreme to mark mine offences," *Psalms cxxx. 3.* nor to exact rigours in my repentance of the same; but for Christ's sake make me all needful and favourable allowances.

Now I have found the way to thy fear, let me find the comforts of thy mercy. I have a truly "contrite heart, O Lord, despise it not." *Psalms li. 17.* My spirit "is broken, and trembleth at thy words; O Lord, revive it." *Isa. lxvi. 2. Eccl. lvii. 15.* It is heavy laden and wearied with my sins; O my God, give it ease from the same. *Matt. xi. 28.* "Pity me, O Father, as a father pitieth his own children." *Psalms ciii. 14.* Receive me as the offended father did the returning prodigal. *Luke xv.*
Though

Though I was lost, yet now, by the blessing of thy grace, I am found again. *Verse 32.*
 O welcome thy lost sheep when it returns home; *verse 4, 5, 6.* and let there be joy in heaven on the repentance of me, a lost sinner, *verse 7, 10.*

“O let the blood of Jesus cleanse me
 “from all my sins.” 1 *John* i. 17. Let
 his intercession for me in thy presence, make
 my peace, and appease thy wrath. Shut
 not thine ears against the voice of his blood,
 nor be deaf to his mediation, but hear him,
 my Advocate, for my pardon. And let
 me find the forgiveness of all my sins, that
 thy troubled and trembling servant may
 have peace, and that thou mayest be sought
 unto, and feared, and served by sinners, who
 will return unto thee in hopes of thy grace
 and pardoning mercy, through Jesus Christ,
 our Lord and only Saviour. *Amen.*

Two Collects in the Office of COMMINATION.

I.

O Lord, we beseech Thee, mercifully
 hear our prayers, and spare all those
 who confess their sins unto thee, that they
 whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy
 merciful pardon may be absolved, through
 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

B 4

II.

II.

O Most mighty God and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, who wouldest not the death of a sinner, but that he should rather turn from his sin and be saved; mercifully forgive me my trespasses; receive and comfort me, who am grieved and wearied with the burden of my sins. Thy property is always to have mercy; to thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare me therefore, good Lord, spare me, whom thou hast redeemed; enter not into judgment with thy servant, who am vile earth, and a miserable sinner; but so turn thine anger from me, who meekly acknowledge my vile-ness, and truly repent me of my faults, and so make haste to help me in this world, that I may ever live with thee in the world to come, through Jesus Christ my Lord. *Amen.*

5. *A Prayer for Peace of Mind, and Comfort upon the same.*

LET me have thy peace, O gracious Father, and comfort my trembling and broken heart with the hopes thereof. Cause me "to hear the voice of joy and gladness," *Psalms li. 8.* and revive me with the assurance of

of thy love. O that I may be able, from mine own experience, to speak great things of thy readiness to receive and comfort returning sinners; and thereby draw back others to thy service, who are still running astray from the same. O that by seeing thy goodness upon me, "every one that is godly" may seek to thee in their distress, and find mercy, as I have done. *Psalms xxxii. 6.*

But, Lord, having found thy mercy to poor sinners, let me not abuse it, or presume upon it. Let me not take heart to repeat my sins, because thou art ready and glad to grant forgiveness. When thou hast spoke comfortably to me, make me careful "to sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon me;" *John v. 14.* but to keep on in all holy and thankful obedience unto thee, and never "more return to folly." *Psalms lxxxv. 8.* Let the sense of thy mercies, O my God, serve no other use in me, but to encourage my repentance; and to support me in thy fear, till I come, at length, to enjoy thy eternal favour, through Jesus Christ my Lord. *Amen.*

For Peace of Mind, and favourable Allowances, and Hopes of Mercy, the Penitent may have more particular Provisions, if he is desirous thereof, in the OFFICE for one troubled in Mind.

II. Prayers for the Confession of Sin, and Repentance of the same, in one continued Form.

1. *A Form and Confession of Sins, and of Repentance for the same.*

I.

O Almighty and most righteous Lord, I do here with grief of heart, and with shame and deep humility, confess unto thy dreadful majesty, that my sins are exceeding many and great, and have been frequently repeated.

I have oft-times transgressed out of ignorance; O that I could not say, careless ignorance, under opportunities of knowledge; yea, or affected ignorance, espoused for earthly ends, against light and clear evidence; which was enough to shame and silence me, though not to gain and convince me. But I have transgressed oftner out of negligence, worldly fear, or desire; yea, alas, too oft out of presumptuous wilfulness, condemning the evil whilst I was doing it, and offending wittingly, and with checks and convictions to the contrary*. And these

* Especially,
&c. here mention particulars.
 sins I have been drawn to, against all the endearments of thy mercies, and all the alarms and louder warnings of thy punishments;

ments; against all the rebukes and strivings of thy grace, and of my own conscience, and of other faithful and seasonable admonishers. And against all mine own purposes and engagements, deliberately made, and solemnly professed, and frequently repeated, that I would offend therein no more.

Lord be merciful to me, a great and wretched Sinner.

II.

BUT thou, O blessed Jesus, by making thyself a sin-offering for us, art come to take away the sins of all, who truly repent thereof. And, O merciful Lord, though my sins are many and grievous, yet I do not desire to overlook them, but would gladly see and discover them all, that I may penitently bewail and forsake them. And O that no corrupt Passions, nor love of worldly or carnal interests, may ever bias me, or blind my eyes from seeing of the same, whilst there is space left me to repent of them. And as for those sins which I do know myself to be guilty of, I do not cover, but with shame confess them; I do not justify nor excuse, but condemn myself for the same.

I stand thereby guilty, O Lord, of the highest disobedience against the strictest obli-

gations; of wretched disingenuity and unthankfulness, against the most endearing mercies; and of most stupid folly, against my own clearest, highest, and most lasting interests, throwing away thy favour and future joys, for empty shows and shadows, and a blessed eternity for moments of vanity.

I reflect on all this, O merciful God, with bitterness, and with a spirit wearied with mine own ways. I see and lament mine own folly, and abhor mine own vileness on account thereof. I wish with all my soul, that those sins had never been done, and would take any way to undo them, and most earnestly desire, and fully purpose by thy grace, that I may do so no more.

God be merciful to me, a Self-condemning and Repenting Sinner.

III.

LORD, I am burdened and heavy laden with my sins, O do thou, who callest out to the heavy laden to seek refreshment at thine hands, give me ease. *Matt. xi. 28.* I confess them, and desire above all things else, that I may utterly forsake them: Let me, according to thy promise, find mercy. *Prov. xxviii. 13.* From mine heart I forgive all persons who have offended me, even my bitterest enemies, and most earnestly intreat thee, that thou wouldest forgive them:

O do

O do thou, who offerest forgiveness to those who earnestly pray for it, for Jesus Christ's sake, forgive me. *Matt. vi. 14, 15.* I repent unfeignedly of all my sins, and am ready to make all just amends, at least as far as I am able, to any whom I have ever injured, whether they be of low or of high degree, or even the highest of all. O God of all grace, perfect my repentance, and accept it, and blot out all my misdeeds, as thou engagest to do unto all those who sincerely repent of the same. *Acts iii. 19.*

I know, O blessed Jesus, that "there is no name but thine, whereby I can obtain pardon. *Acts iv. 12.* And I trust only to the fulness of thy merits, and to the faithfulness of thy gracious promises, and to the abundance of my heavenly Father's mercy and loving kindness, to me a great and miserable, but an humble, contrite, penitent sinner. Forgive them all, O blessed Father, remembering not my deservings, but the pitiable-ness of my weakness, and thy dear Son's infinite merits, and thine own boundless mercies and most precious promises. Let me here have thy peace, and be admitted hereafter to stand for ever in thy presence, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

2. *A shorter Form of Confession, and Repentance of the same.*

O Almighty and everliving God! I thy sinful wretched creature, do here with shame and grief of heart bewail and confess my manifold sins, which either this day, or at any time heretofore, I have been guilty of against thy divine Majesty, either in thought, word; or deed; by omitting what I ought to have done, or by committing what I ought not to have done; against thee, my neighbour, or myself. Sinning in all these kinds against thy mercies, and thy judgments; thy spirit, and thy awakening providences; against my own vows and resolutions, yea, and oft-times against the checks and calls of my own conscience; oft-times without any pretence to palliate them to myself, and always without any to excuse and justify me at thy righteous bar. And by these ways, O great and dreadful God, am I, who at best am nothing, become far worse than nothing, an object of thy most deserved wrath, and eternal damnation.

But thou, O merciful Father, hast sent thine own only Son into the world, "to seek and save that which was lost;" *Luke xix. 10.* and when once he returns back, thou art ready, not only to receive the prodigal

digal son, but to "run out and meet him, and
"rejoice over him." *Luke xv. 20. &c.*

Lord, I repent of all my sins, from my
very heart, and am ashamed of myself, and
grieved that ever I committed them. I
earnestly desire to do better for the time to
come, and firmly purpose, by thy help, to
labour in the same. And I most humbly
and heartily implore thy grace, to keep me
always in this mind, and never to suffer me
wilfully to relapse into the ways of wicked-
ness again. I am heartily offended with
myself, be thou no longer offended with
me. Cleanse away the guilt of all my sins,
O gracious God, by thy dear Son's most
precious blood, and slay the power and
dominion of them by his Spirit, that "being
"made whole, I may sin no more," *John*
v. 14. nor, "return, after I am washed, as
"the dog to his vomit, or the sow to her
"wallowing in the mire." *2 Pet. ii. 22.*
Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear
Son, and my only Saviour, Jesus Christ's
sake. *Amen.*

3. *A particular Enumeration of Sins, in a
large Form of Confession and Repentance of
the same.*

I.

O Lord, most holy and terrible, who art
most pure in all thy ways, and a con-
suming fire to all unrelenting sinners, my
manifold

manifold and great transgressions make me both ashamed and afraid to appear before so holy and just a Majesty.

Lord, how unlike am I to that image of thine, wherein at first thou madest man; and how far have all the powers of my soul fallen from what they should be? My mind is overspread with blindness and ignorance, folly and false reasonings, and spends itself upon vanity and unprofitable thoughts. It is loth to fix upon good things, and very apt to forget them, and to lose that tenderness and quick sense of duty, which should make thy laws to reign in me. My heart is so averse to what is good, and so stubborn and refractory, that it is hardly brought to resolve upon those ways which my conscience tells me are my duty; and so wavering and inconstant withal, that when it doth resolve well, it doth not stick to it with any certainty. My affections are forward and violent in pursuit of earthly things, but very slow to be engaged in thy service; and when once engaged therein, soon weary of the same.

Lord, be merciful to me, a miserably corrupt and depraved creature.

II.

AND, besides this proneness of my nature, O righteous God, to what is bad, to make me still more lowly in my own

own sight, I have little strength of holy inclinations, or obedient dispositions, which should restrain me from following, and giving way to the same.

O how little is there in my heart of that holy fear which should withhold me from giving thee any offence; of that love, which should make me imitate thy glorious excellencies; of that thankfulness, which should make me return answerably for all thy mercies; or of that joy in God, which should turn religion into a delight, and make me take all opportunities of conversing in that place whilst I live, where I desire to be when I come to die.

I am not duly provident to prevent temptations; nay, alas! I am too oft delighted in them, and pleased to dwell with them, and love the near approaches of sin, and to be put into opportunities, yea, and sometimes almost the necessity of evil-doing. And when at any time thou hast thought fit to cast me upon trials, I have not been sufficiently watchful, active, and unwearied in withstanding them. I am easier, O most righteous Lord, in hearkening to my own wicked lusts, than to the good motions of thy holy Spirit, and to the dictates of a pious conscience; and hereby have omitted many duties, and have been led into many sinful thoughts, and evil or indecent speeches, and

and unrighteous actions, which now I do with grief lament, and am utterly ashamed of.

Lord, be merciful to me, a frail, naked, and sinful creature.

III.

HOW seldom have I been, O holy Father, in devout reflections! How irreverent, insincere, and lifeless in my prayers! How careless in observing thy manifold and great mercies! How hard sometimes to be reconciled to thy will, and to own the wisdom and goodness of thy orderings! How faint and languid in believing, and relying on thy promises, when I have stood most in need thereof, and danger has threatned any duties! How fearful to expose myself in owning of thy injured name or cause, and in shewing a concern and zeal for thy service! Nay, how faithless to my own vows, when I have promised to make up defects, and to shew greater care and watchfulness in amending these, or any other offences!

Lord, be merciful unto me, an unbelieving, indevout, and ungodly Creature.

IV.

AND, besides all these offences against thee, my God, how many ways have I trespassed against my brethren also!

In

In bargaining, and acts of justice, how apt am I to lean to my own profit, and to press upon my neighbour's?

In opportunities of charity and good offices, how is my affection in doing good straitened, by too quick an eye to mine own ease and interest?

In conversation, how prone am I to take opportunities of instilling my own praise, and of detracting from the praise of others?

How liable is my heart to give way to discontents; to harbour uncharitable surmises, yea, sometimes of those who are the proper objects of charity, and stand in need of my relief or assistance? To grow impatient and angry, upon any provocation, and in such anger, to utter some indecent, bitter, or reproachful words, especially to my inferiors; and to retain such resentment of their offences, as renders me either prone to return ill offices, or, at least backward to shew kindness to them, on any fit occasion, afterwards.

I am still offending, O almighty Lord, either by uncharitable provocations, or sinful compliances, or by negligence and remissness in governing myself, or my dependents; or by irreverence and undutifulness to my superiors; or by want of affection, fidelity, or due regard to my relations; or by proud thoughts, or vain-glorious speeches,

speeches, or harsh censures; or by lust, anger, envy, peevishness, sinful fear, mistrustful care, covetous desire, or some other inordinate or unlawful passions; or by being guilty of some thoughts, words, or actions, which are contrary to thy laws, and to that excellent pattern of all virtue, which my dearest Lord hath set me to walk by.

Lord, be merciful to me, an unrighteous, selfish, proud, and impatient creature.

V.

THESE, O most great and just God, and many others, which I am not able to recount, are mine offences: Which I have committed, several of them ordinarily, others frequently, and all of them, even those which most seldom, yet, alas! too often, either by the frailty and violence of my Passions, or by my ignorance, negligence or wilfulness; against all the endearments of thy mercies, and the terror of thy judgments, and all the warnings of thy providence, and the suggestions of thy Spirit, and the bonds of my own most solemn vows and promises; and against all other methods of thy preventing, assisting, and recovering grace, which should have kept me from them. All these my transgressions testify against me, and my own conscience

conscience accuseth me; and thou, holy Lord, art an upright judge, who wilt do justice, and not justify a sinner in any wickedness; and whither then shall my guilty and fearful soul fly?

But thine own dearly beloved Son, O gracious God, hath paid his life a ransom for my sins, and through the merits of his blood, thou art most ready to embrace a returning penitent, and to make thy mercy glory over judgment. O Lord, I repent of all these my sins, from my very heart, and freely forgive all who have trespassed against me, as I now desire that thou wouldest freely forgive me. O suffer me not to be swallowed up, either in death or despair; but in the multitude of thy mercies do away all mine offences, and give me comfort and peace of conscience, that being cleansed from all my sins, I may serve thee with a quiet mind.

Consider my weakness, O Father of mercies, and how frail my nature is. And that, frail and sinful as I am, I am still the work of thine own hands, and am called upon by thy name. And how I am heartily ashamed, and sorry for what I have done, and for Jesus Christ's sake, the Son of thy love, do earnestly implore thy pardon. And how the Saviour of the world died to save sinners, and how thou art my Father, and I thy son in Christ Jesus. Accept me,

me, therefore, good Lord, in thy beloved: Forgive me freely all that is past, and, keep up in me, by thy Spirit, such vigour of holy resolution, and such watchfulness and circumspection for the time to come, that I may never return to them again.

I know, O gracious Father, the falseness of my own heart, and the instability of my spirit. But it is not in myself, but in thee, that I trust. My faith is in thine almighty aid, which thou hast bountifully promised, and which thy Son has dearly purchased for us with his most precious blood. O let that always be my guard, and then my sins shall no more prevail over me, but I shall finish my days in thy righteousness, and rest at last in thine everlasting peace, through Jesus Christ my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

4. *Another particular Enumeration of Sins, and Repentance of the same, in a short Form.*

I.

O Almighty Lord, I thy poor creature, who am a vile and miserable sinner, do here in great humility lament before thee, and am most heartily ashamed and troubled, for my having lived so long in the world, as through thy mercy I have done, and yet having done so little good
in

in it, and being still so unfit to leave it, and so little qualified for a better.

I am grieved, O blessed God, for having lived so long a stranger to thee, and for my loving and obeying thee no better, and having no greater zeal for thee, since by thy grace I have been brought to know and fear thee.

For all my neglects of thy service, and for my insincerity and unaffectedness in performing it. For all the lightness and evil wanderings of my thoughts in my prayers, and my great and daily unthankfulness for thy great and innumerable mercies; for my solicitude about worldly things, and my distrust of thy paternal care and sure promises.

For all my negligence, yea, and averseness in studying and learning thy holy will, and all my remissness and forgetfulness in doing it, and for all the defects and difficulties which I have ever found in suffering and submitting to the same.

For all my corrupt averseness [and shameful refusal] to take up thy cross, and preferring worldly ease and interest before a good conscience; and for having chosen at any time, rather to part with the way of thy truth and righteousness, than to follow thee, O holy Jesu! in patient and faithful suffering for the same.

For all my prophanations of thy sacred name, by irreverent use thereof;

* This to be used or omitted, as the penitent's need requires.

[* especially by careless and common swearing; but most of all by the horrible wickedness of false or faithless oaths.]

For all which, all other my offences of this kind, which either I can remember, or have forgotten, Lord, be merciful to me, a contrite Sinner.

II.

I Am troubled, O Lord, for all the discontentedness which I have ever shewn with my own condition, and for all the envy and evil eye which I have cast upon the happier lot of other men. For all the pride of my heart, and all the sinful lightness of my spirit, and for all my immoderate love of this world. For all my unclean thoughts, and unchaste carriage, and for all the unthankfulness, or uncharitableness, or intemperance, which I have ever shewn in my use of outward enjoyments.

For all which, and all my other like offences, which either I can remember, or have forgotten, Lord be merciful to me, a contrite Sinner.

III.

I Am heartily sorry, O holy Father, for all my deceitful and insincere expressions, and feigned or faithless promises; for my having at any time divulged secrets which I ought to have concealed; or dissembled things which I ought openly to have professed; for all my unjust and hard censures, and for all my detracting speeches against any of my brethren.

For all the advantage which I have ever taken of the ignorance, and for all the sport and pastime which I have ever made with the folly and weakness of my neighbours. For all my covetous desires, and all my wrongful gripings, or hard dealings towards any, whom I have at any time been concerned withal. For all the over-reaching which I may have been guilty of, [in *Gaming*, or other ways] and for all the excesses and offences of my recreations.

I lament, O Lord, for all the countenance which I have given to other mens sins, or compliance with them, or neglect to reprove the same, when I had an obliging call so to do. For all the provocation which I have ever given others; and for all the sinful passion which I have ever shown, and opprobrious speeches which I

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have

have ever used, and ill-will which I have ever retained towards them, when at any time they have provoked me. For all the ungrounded jealousies, and evil and uncandid surmises, and for all the back-bitings and evil-speakings, which I stand guilty of towards any. For all my deafness to the cries, or narrowness of heart in relieving the wants of the poor and needy.

For all which, and all my other offences of the like sort, which either I can remember, or have forgotten, Lord, be merciful to me a contrite Sinner.

IV.

I Humble myself before thee, O almighty God, for all my irreverence, disloyalty, or breach of faith and due obedience, whereby I have trespassed against those, who have had the right to reign over me. For having ever offered a deaf or disobedient ear to my ghostly rulers; for all my undutifulness to my parents, or unkindness to my wife, [*or husband*] or remissness in governing my dependents, and training up all that serve, or are any way subject to me, to fear and serve thee. For all the evil thoughts of my heart, and sinful words of my mouth, and unrighteous actions

actions of my life, wherein I have grievously offended thee, either this day, or at any other times.

For all these, and all other sins, O almighty and most righteous Lord, which either mine own heart, or Thou, who knowest better than my heart, seest me to be guilty of, I am sorry at my very soul, and here humbly confess them before thee, with shame and a broken spirit, and with stedfast resolution, by thy grace, to watch and strive against them for the time to come. Where I have wickedly broken thy statutes, my study shall be religiously to keep them. And where I have done wrong to any person, I am ready and willing, according to the utmost of my power, to repair the same.

Lord, I repent, increase my repentance; and, for Jesus Christ's sake, pardon me a poor repenting sinner. O let his blood wash me from all my sins, and let his peace rid me of all my fears, and let his Spirit preserve me from all relapses. O that having utterly abandoned all my former evil ways, I may ever henceforward be fixt in thy fear, and be duly disposed for thine eternal mercy and favour, through the merits of my only Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Short Prayers and Ejaculations, for the Penitent to use at any time, as he sees Cause.

EJACULATIONS.

I Am a sinful man, O Lord, *Luke v. 8.*

And mine iniquities are gone over my head, as an heavy burden, they are too heavy for me. *Psalms xxxviii. 4.*

Lord! carest thou not that I perish? *Mark iv. 38.*

Jesus, Master, have mercy upon me. *Luke xvii. 13.*

Thou that camest into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. i. 15.*

Be merciful to me a sinner. *Luke xviii. 13.*

Thou that takest away the sins of the world. *John i. 29.*

And hast abolished and overcome death. *2 Tim. i. 10. 1 Cor. xv. 54, 57.*

And destroyed him that had the power of it. *Heb. ii. 14.*

Deliver me from the body of sin and death. *Rom. vii. 24.*

SHORT

SHORT PRAYERS.

I.

LORD, I am not worthy to lift up my polluted eyes unto thee. But whither should a wretch in guilt and misery look, but unto the fountain of mercy? Whither, but to a God, whose mercy is greater than our wickedness? to a God, whose property it is to be kind to his enemies; and whose patience to bear our sins, is as great as his power to punish them; and who had much rather be reconciled to us, than take vengeance on us? Whither, indeed, but to thee, O God of all grace and comfort, who shewest mercy on the unworthy, and who art most graciously pleased to fit and qualify them for thy mercy, that so thou mayest bountifully confer it on them, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

II.

LORD, under my heavy load of guilt and misery, I address myself unto thee. But I make no plea, but for thy mercy. Nor have any pretence to claim it, O Father of mercies, but only because I infinitely need it, and because thou lovest to

shew it, and art more ready to look at our needs, which move thy pity and tenderness, than at our deserts, which cry aloud to thee for wrath and vengeance upon our heads. And because, unworthy as I am, yet through thine inexpressible love and his, I have a most merciful Saviour, who has borne all the punishment of my sins, to purchase mercy for me a sinner, and who now powerfully intercedes with thee for mercy for me, if, being weary of my sins, I turn to seek and serve thee, through Jesus Christ my Lord. *Amen.*

III.

AND my soul, O gracious God, is wearied out, and filled with the bitterness of mine own ways. I accuse myself, and need no witnesses. I condemn myself, and need no other judge to pronounce me guilty. I punish and afflict myself for all my sins, that I may prevent thy justice for the same. And by thy grace I am resolved to turn from them all, that they may no longer provoke thee: and, as far as I am able, to repair the harm which my brethren have sustained thereby, that they may no longer damnify, or disturb them. Father, forgive me, for I am heartily sorry for all the evils which I have done. Forgive all my sins, for I am fully resolved,

resolved, by thy grace, to forsake them. Forgive me, O dear God, for I forgive others, yea, I forgive all. Do not go to exact punishment of me for my sins; but extend thy mercy and pardon to my true repentance, for my dearest Lord and only Saviour Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

IV.

AND having thus utterly renounced my sins, O holy Father, I desire, above all things, to partake of thy righteousness. Having utterly defaced and corrupted myself, I would gladly be new-made by thee. Having hitherto miscarried, whilst I would be in mine own hands, I desire now to be altogether in thine. I lothe myself, O my dear God, whilst I am without thee: And whatever else I lose, my earnest prayer is, that I may recover thy likeness, through Jesus Christ my Lord. *Amen.*

V.

I Know, O gracious Lord, that I cannot receive this, but from thyself. O therefore be thou the blessed giver, and the gift. I know also, alas! that I am utterly unworthy to have thy divine image stamped upon my soul. But I extremely need it, and I extremely value it; and such thou

art pleased to account worthy of it. And I dearly love thee, O God, or else I should not be thus desirous to be like thee. And thou lovest to communicate thy goodness; and whom shouldst thou imprint and display it upon, but on those who love thee, and are earnestly desirous of the same?

Hear me, therefore, O my God, and breathe into my heart that spirit which "renews us after thine own image, in righteousness and true holiness." *Ephes. iv. 24.* O thou, who seekest out sinners to make them good, do not reject me now when I seek thee out to make me better. I am poor and naked, O fill me with thy righteousness. My good thoughts are unconstant and changeable, O fix them by thy grace. Set up thy kingdom, O Jesu, in my heart; for to become thy faithful servant is more to me, than to have the empire of this world. Keep me stedfast, O Lord, in serving thee, till thou takest me finally to enjoy thee, through Jesus Christ my blessed Saviour and Redeemer.
Amen.

VI.

LORD! grant that at all times I may account my sins, yea, all my sins, to be my shame; and make thy laws, yea, all thy laws, to be my rule; and thy blessed will

will to be in every thing my choice and satisfaction. And let thy promises be my hope, thy providence my guard, thy grace my strength, and thy blessed self my portion, both now and in the end, through Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer.

Amen.

THE



THE
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